500.40494CX1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Yoshiki KANO et al.

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

Filed: February 23, 2004

For: AUTOMATED ON-LINE CAPACITY EXPANSION METHOD FOR

STORAGE DEVICE

Group: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 & 1.98

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 February 23, 2004

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, Applicants are submitting herewith a form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted within three months of the filing date. All of the references on the form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 were cited or submitted in parent application No. 09/931,253, filed August 17, 2001. Therefore, copies of the references are not necessary.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (referencing attorney docket no. 500.40494CX1) please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

Frederick D. Bailey

Registration No. 42,282

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

FDB/sdb (703) 312-6600

| FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 4/92) Patent and Trademark Office | | | ATTY, DOCKET NO. | | SERIAL NO. | | |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------|
| | | | 500.40494CX1 | | Not yet assigned | | |
| Office | INFORMATION DISCLOSUR | APPLICANT Yoshiki KANO et al. | | | | | |
| STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | FILING DATE February 23, 2004 | GROUP Not yet assi | OUP t yet assigned | | |
| | | | DOCUMENTS | | | | |
| EVALUED. | | | | | | FILING DATE | |
| EXAMINER INITIAL | 5,983,316 | 11-1999 | NORWOOD | 711 | | IF APPROP | RIATE |
| | 5,129,088 | 07-1992 | AUSLANDER et al. | 711 | 1 | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | _ | | | |
| | | | | +- | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| FOREIG | N PATENT DOCUMENT | S | | | | | |
| | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | ÇLAS | S SUBCLASS | ABSTRACT | |
| | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | <u> </u> |
| OTHER | DOCUMENTS (Including | g Author, Tit | le, Date, Pertinent Pa | ages, | Etc.) | | - |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| EXAMIN | ER | DATE CON | ISIDERED | | | | |
| EXAMIN | ER: Initial if citation is consi | dered, draw lin | e through citation if not | in con | formance and | l not | |
| conside | red. Include copy of this forr | n with next con | nmunication to applicant | [. | | | |

(Form PTO-1449 [6-4])